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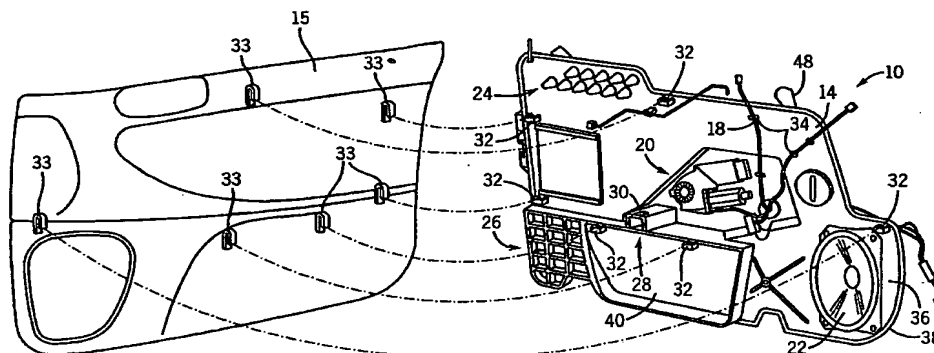
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(54) Title: DOOR MODULE SYSTEM FOR VEHICLES



(57) Abstract: A door module and a method of packaging and assembling the door module (10) to a vehicle door (12) is disclosed. The door module (10) comprises a non-structural substrate carrier (14), a door trim panel (15) configured to be coupled to the substrate carrier, a door trim interface member (32) integrally molded with the carrier (14) as a single unitary article, and a carrier interface member (33) extending from the door trim panel (15). The door trim panel is releasably coupled to the carrier by releasable engagement of the door trim interface member (32) and the substrate carrier interface member (33). The carrier (14) may also have an integrally molded impact absorber (24, 26) or an integrally molded pull cup support (28). The method of preparing a module vehicle door (12) for transportation to a location for assembly of a vehicle door comprises mounting the trim panel (15) to the carrier (14) by engaging a projection (33) on the trim panel (15) with a retainer (32) integrally molded with the carrier (14). The method of assembling the door module to a structural frame of a vehicle door comprises receiving the carrier and the trim panel at the location for assembly of the vehicle door, removing the trim panel from the non-structural carrier, coupling the carrier to the structural frame (42, 44), and mounting the trim panel to the non-structural carrier (14).



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